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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/842,017	04/26/2001	Shoji Suzuki	1081.1117	7053
21171 7590 03/23/2007 STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005			EXAMINER SAX, STEVEN PAUL	
			ART UNIT 2174	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS			03/23/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/842,017

Applicant(s)

SUZUKI, SHOJI

Examiner

Steven P. Sax

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 February 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 8,15,18,21 and 22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 8,18,21 and 22 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This application has been examined. The amendment filed 2/26/07 has been entered.

2. The previous indication of allowability of claim 15 has been removed in view of the new reference to Yamamoto. However, this Office Action is non-final.

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamamoto (6274283) and Shiotani et al (6337712).

5. Regarding claim 15, Yamamoto shows: a method of data processing service for a portable digital camera of a user (abstract, figure 7, column 2 lines 20-40), comprising: reading ID data recorded in a storage medium, using a single interface unit (column 2 lines 35-50, column 3 lines 17-40, column 19 lines 10-25); selecting, using said single interface unit, a reading method corresponding to the digital camera from the read ID data and reading a photographed image data recorded in a

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memory of the digital camera using the selected reading method software corresponding to the digital camera from a plural reading method software that are stored (column 10 lines 50-67m column 11 lines 1-15 and 40-60, and column 19 lines 50-60); and preserving the photographed image data in the storage medium (column 20 lines 35-55). Yamamoto does not go into the specific details that said reading method software is for reading the photographed image data recorded in said memory of said digital camera to a memory of a controller per se, but does mention efficient reading of photographic image data. Furthermore, Shiota et al do show software for reading the photographed image data recorded in said memory of said digital camera to a memory of a controller (column 2 lines 30-50, column 3 lines 25-45, column 6 lines 15-40) for efficient reading of photographic image data. It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art to have this in Yamamoto, because it would allow efficient reading of photographic image data.

6. Claims 8, 18, 21-22 are allowable over the prior art of record. These claims distinguish over the art in that the camera is temporarily connected to the processing system at the shop with the photographed image data being read from that recorded in the memory of the digital camera to the memory of the controller means. Shiota et al come close with this feature, but do not determine a processing software based on the camera ID at the shop, while also preserving the photographed image data in the camera's memory. The features combined are not set forth in the prior art of record.

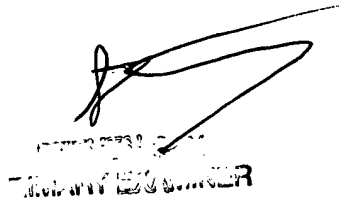
7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 15 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Note also that with the language including processing at the shop not being present in this claim, that the image data may come at a variety of processing stages and this broadens the claim. Applicant is invited to contact Examiner to discuss ways to remedy the claim.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven P. Sax whose telephone number is (571) 272-4072. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



A handwritten signature in black ink is written over a rectangular stamp. The signature is stylized and appears to be a name. The stamp is partially obscured by the signature but contains some text that is difficult to read.